

# Maine Newborn Hearing Program Advisory Board

**Senator Inn & Conference Center, Augusta Maine**

**Date: December 5, 2008**

**12:00 to 4:00**

**Members Present:** Annette Bowman, Carrie Chojnowski, Cindy Brown, Eileen Peterson, Harriet Gray, Karen Harrison, Karen Hopkins, Kristen Shorey, Lisa Sockabasin, Louise Packness, Romy Spitz

**Members Absent:** Brenda Medlin, Deb Stroud, Karen Perry

**Program Staff:** Ana Scovil, Betsy Glencross, Toni Wall, Vivian Mikhail

**Guests:** Pam Dawson, Donna Betts, Jennifer Libby, Matt Hearst, Lori Hayden

**Moderator:** Betsy Glencross

**Scribe:** Ana Scovil

**I. Approval of minutes from: September 10, 2008, accepted.**

**II. MNHP Program Updates: Betsy Glencross**

- ❖ New support staff person Ana Scovil she is the contact person for the MNHP please RSVP to her.
- ❖ Perinatal Nurse Managers Meeting Dec 12<sup>th</sup> Betsy will be discussing the protocols to include the Joint Commission Infant Hearing (JCIH) 2007 recommendations. Also to implement the new law for dealing with referrals that was passed by the legislative work group last session.
  - Annette Bowman- Received a new hearing screener that includes letters with information on referring, results, the screening and would like the Board to review the information that is on the letters. Betsy will contact manufacturer, Natus, to obtain the letters and forward to the Board.
- ❖ Janet Farrell from Massachusetts EHDI Program will attend a January meeting with 3 State Child Development Services (CDS) staff, Cindy Brown and Karen Hopkins, Toni Wall and Betsy Glencross. This meeting will focus on early intervention and other issues. Janet will also attend our May Advisory Board meeting.
- ❖ Betsy is working on year-end reports to the legislature and grant providers.
- ❖ MNHP helped sponsor a Family Support Day in Bangor. Connection parents to parents. Families from Lewiston, Ellsworth, and Bangor.
- ❖ It has been 1 year since Jim Dean and a 1 1/2 year since Vivian Mikhail were hired. The collaborative work has been excellent and we are getting positive comments from other states on how far our program has come. Betsy stated that the Board & Program has done GREAT work.

**KEY POINTS: Obtain letters from the new hearing screener**

**Next Steps: forward sample letters from Natus to Advisory Board**

**Responsible Person: Betsy**

**Time Frame: Prior to February meeting**

### **III. Audiology Consultant Overview/Update: Betsy Glencross & Eileen Peterson**

- ❖ Maine Academy of Audiologists (MAA) held a two day conference in October that MNHP helped sponsor. There was good attendance and we received positive responses to our services as well as suggestions for future training / education opportunities.
- ❖ The Pediatric Audiology Evaluation Facilities listing is being updated.
- ❖ Eileen Peterson and Jim Dean discussed adding educational material on the recent Auditory Neuropathy Spectrum Disorder. Betsy, Eileen and Jim will discuss this and present to the Advisory Board at the next meeting.
- ❖ Jim Dean will hopefully be selected to give a presentation at the Maine Chapter of Academy of Pediatrics May meeting. A proposal to present has been submitted and we should know more by our February meeting.
- ❖ On behalf of Jim Dean, Eileen Peterson has sent out e-mails to Maine Audiologists requesting for volunteers to serve on one of two committees for updating the Maine Pediatric Audiology guidelines 2003. 1) Pediatrics amplifications & fitting protocols 2) diagnostic protocols applications
  - Goal to have a broad base of audiologists review national guidelines and recommendations and rewrite anything that needs to be changed in our guidelines. Jim Dean will organize committees and assign a chair to each committee.

### **IV. Parent Consultant Update: Vivian Mikhail**

- ❖ MNHP- In October Vivian attended the ME & NH portion of the MMA conference and with her NH counterpart.
  - Vivian is seeing a positive change in Lost to Documentation. Parents are calling back and families are getting what they need and are receptive to resources and services. Numbers of lost to documentation are going down.
- ❖ Working on establishing a Maine Chapter of a National non-profit organization called HAND & VOICES that is devoted to supporting families of children with hearing loss.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Family social was in November: looking to form a Board and need recommendations from professionals on parents who might be willing to serve.

### **V. Action Items for Previous Meeting:**

- ❖ Family Survey Report- is in the DRAFT form; looking to receive any additional comments within one week; in order to present findings to the general public and legislature.
  - At request of the Board, Betsy will review the report in more detail at the end of the February Board meeting.
  - Positive feedback was received and letters were sent to nurse managers and CEOs of the birth facilities mentioned.
- ❖ Subcommittee update
  - Specialty Provider: Romy Spitz  
Database where parents are able to self refer and search for information online for services. Toni Wall needs to resolve technical difficulties before we can start.

- Membership: Kristen Shorey and Karen Perry  
Working on getting seats on the Board filled. Parent of Culturally Deaf Child seat is opened because Michelle Markie recently resigned. Jonathan Connick has agreed to apply to for Culturally Deaf Adult seat.
- Educational Materials: Louise Packness  
Goal is to focus on a “script” for birth facility staff to use for parent information.
- Presentations: Louise Packness  
MNHP has been selected to do a 90 minute presentation at the Maine Speech and Language Hearing Association spring conference May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> to promote Speech-Language Pathologists to work with infants.
- ❖ Meeting Structure:  
Meeting space can be setup for prior to or after Advisory Board Meeting at the Senator to work in subcommittees if they let MNHP know 1 month ahead of time to reserve room and book interpreter service, when needed.
- ❖ Hearing Screening Training DVD:  
Annette discussed the DVD at the perinatal manager group as well to her staff nurses and liked the DVD. DVD gives consistent training on performing screenings. MNHP will explore purchase costs for the DVD. Annette suggested including the DVD as part of a training module supplied by MNHP.
- ❖ MNHP Advisory Board Orientation: Betsy, Romy & Karen Hopkins
  - 2/11/09 at 10:30. Orientation topics: Hearing Loss, at an Audiological angle – sub category: culture, experiences, shifts, History of the Board and the MNHP goals, structure, collaboration, work process, Acronyms & definitions and current educational material. Everyone is welcome.
- ❖ 2009 EHDI Conference: Betsy Glencross  
Betsy Glencross, Jim Dean, Toni Wall, Vivian Mikhail hope to attend. Conference subjects from parents, audiologist, speech & language pathologist and coordinators’ role. You may attend at your own expense however MNHP is unable to fund. Information was included in meeting packet.
- ❖ 2009 MNHP Advisory Board Meetings:  
Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

## **VI. New Agenda Items**

- ❖ Prenatal Brochure:  
Betsy Glencross passed along a request to the education subcommittee to develop a brochure that will be provided to prenatal classes, OB/GYN, family practice, etc. (that informs parent about newborn hearing screening) Betsy has samples from other state to give to the subcommittee.
- ❖ Family Information Notebook (3 ring binder): Betsy Glencross  
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/cshn/documents/pdf/ParentInfoNotebook.pdf>  
Needs to be updated. Betsy requested that some Board members volunteer to review the current document. Karen Hopkins and Carrie volunteered and were asked to respond with edits/comments within 45 days.

### **KEY POINTS: updating Family Information Notebook**

**Next Steps: feedback on updates will be reported to Betsy**  
**Responsible Person: Carrie & Karen Hopkins**  
**Time Frame: by January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

- ❖ **Cultural Competency:**  
Romy suggested that MNHP consider translation MNHP education material into top 5-6 languages in Maine. She also suggested that some training on newborn hearing screening be provided to the interpreters who are working in / with birth facilities. Lisa and Romy agreed to work on this and to follow-up with the Board at our next meeting.

**KEY POINTS:**

**Next Steps: Information on interpreting MNHP material & training for  
Medical service interpreters**

**Responsible Persons: Romy and Lisa**

**Time Frame: February MNHP Advisory Board Meeting**

**VII. Presentation: hear ME now! By Pam Dawson**

- ❖ Brochure available upon request. Pam gave the Board an overview of their programs and introduced Donna Betts who is their new outreach director.

**VIII. Networking/ Sharing Info**

- ❖ **New EDHI Materials: Betsy Glencross**  
Sample of these materials were included in the meeting packets. Board reviewed National CDC poster material and parents guide and provided feedback for Betsy to send to the CDC.  
Please feel free contact Betsy for individual comments to supply to EDHI.
- ❖ **Plan for Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> 2009**
  - MNHP Advisory Board Orientation: at 10:30